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ABSTRACT

This brochure provides information on the background, objectives, location, management, funding, and current developments in 1992-93 International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) core programs. The following programs are discussed: (1) Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (UBCIM), including work on the development of International Standard Bibliographic Descriptions, the UNIMARC formats, and publications dealing with machine-readable cataloging and exchange of bibliographic records, as well as planned activities; (2) Universal Availability of Publications (UAP), including research in the role of national libraries, activities related to copyright law, areas for further research, publications, and conference participation by UAP staff; (3) Preservation and Conservation (PAC), including the role of regional centers, a symposium on the preservation of serial literature, and an audiovisual program on disaster preparedness; and (4) Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications (UDT), including UDT's role in a project related to international exchange of interlibrary loan requests and research focusing on the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) technology. A list of contributors to IFLA core programs between 1980 and 1990 and correspondence addresses for the core programs and the PAC regional centers are provided. (MES)

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IFLA CORE PROGRAMMES 1992/93

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Contents

IFLA Core Programmes 1991 . . . . . (i)

Introduction 1

Background 1

Programme Objectives 2

Location of the Core Programmes 4

Management and Funding 4

Current Development 5

National Library Support 1980-1990 12

Further Contributors 13

Correspondence Addresses 14

PAC Regional Centres 14

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August, 1992

IFLA Core Programmes

1992/93

UBCIM: *Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC*

UDT: *Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications*

PAC: *Preservation and Conservation*

UAP: *Universal Availability of Publications*

ALP:* *Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World*

*ALP is the subject of a separate brochure which is available (free of charge) from IFLA Headquarters, The Hague.

Introduction

This brochure contains some basic information on the background, objectives and latest developments in IFLA's Core Programmes. Its principal aim is to inform librarians and policy-makers on IFLA's international efforts in the field of universal bibliographic control, universal availability of publications, preservation and conservation of library materials and on universal electronic dataflow and telecommunications.

Why are these major programmes called "core" programmes? The answer is not that they would be more important than the other IFLA activities as concentrated in the many specialized professional groups, such as Sections for types of libraries and for library activities, but that they intersect the interests and concerns of all libraries and their users, wherever located.

Background

In the 1970s IFLA set up a number of subject-orientated Core Programmes, and expanded this number in the 1980s. These programmes are:

- Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (UBCIM)
- Universal Availability of Publications (UAP)
- Preservation and Conservation (PAC)
- Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications (UDT)

There is also another Programme, Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World (ALP), which officially started in 1984. The ALP Programme was the subject of intensive discussion between 1987 and 1989. Since 1989 it has been developed by a consultant based at the University of Uppsala, Sweden. A report on the objectives and operation of the ALP Programme was presented at the 1990 IFLA Conference in Stockholm. A brochure describing this programme is available from IFLA Headquarters.

Historically, the first IFLA Core Programme was Universal Bibliographic Control, established in 1974, followed by

Universal Availability of Publications and the International MARC Programme. In 1984, the IFLA Executive Board approved a recommendation that, in addition to the three existing programmes, new core programmes - on Preservation and Conservation, Transborder Data Flow and related problems of data exchange - be established.

IFLA's Programme Management Committee, the statutory function of which is to "coordinate and manage IFLA major professional programmes, including their objectives and functions, and also to facilitate the liaison of these programmes with the work of IFLA Sections and Divisions",was assigned responsibility for the Core Programmes.

It has been adopted as a guiding principle that the focal points for the Core Programmes should be located within appropriate national institutions, where intellectual and logistic assistance can be provided, and where there are staff with professional expertise from which the entire library community can profit.

In 1986, IFLA's Executive Board decided to merge the UBC and IM Programmes into the UBCIM Programme, and it also changed the name of the Transborder Dataflow Programme into Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications, as well as modifying its objectives.

Programme Objectives

Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (UBCIM)

The UBCIM Core Programme aims to:

- coordinate activities aimed at the development of systems and standards for bibliographic control at the national level and the international exchange of bibliographic data, including support for professional activities of appropriate IFLA Sections and Divisions, maintenance of bibliographic and format standards, and acting as clearinghouse for information on all IFLA endeavours in these fields;

- promote the UNIMARC format and coordinate its development and maintenance by experts;
- ensure publication of projects related to international bibliographic and format standards and proceedings of relevant meetings and seminars.

Universal Availability of Publications (UAP)

The UAP Core Programme aims to:

- ensure the widest possible availability of published material, in whatever format and of whatever date to potential users wherever and whenever they are needed; and
- identify constraints on availability and to propose, encourage and support action to improve the present situation at all levels, from the local to the international, and at all stages, from the publication of new materials to the retention of last copies. (It should be noted that UAP is as relevant to the book trade as to libraries).

Preservation and Conservation (PAC)

IFLA's Core Programme for Preservation and Conservation aims to:

- ensure that library materials, published and unpublished, in all formats will be preserved in an accessible form for as long as possible;
- promote the search for solutions to the serious problems of physical deterioration of library and information material;
- promote the development of national and international standards that pertain to the production, preservation and treatment of library materials;
  and,
- promote and facilitate the worldwide development of national, institutional, and international preservation initiatives.

Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications (UDT)

The UDT Core Programme aims to:
- promote the electronic transfer of data between libraries and their users;
- work to reduce telecommunications barriers;
- monitor development, provide information and support the promotion, implementation and use of compatible international standards for library-specific applications of electronic data communications;
- assist and support the other Core Programmes with the means and mode of communicating electronic data.

Location of the Core Programmes

The Deutsche Bibliothek in Frankfurt, Germany hosts the UBCIM Programme. In addition, the British Library Document Supply Centre in Boston Spa, UK hosts the UAP Programme.

The Bibliothèque nationale in Paris hosts the Programme on Preservation and Conservation, and serves as the international focal point. Regional centres of this Programme are located at the Deutsche Bucherei, Leipzig, Germany, the Biblioteca Nacional in Caracas, Venezuela, the National Library of Australia in Canberra, Australia, the National Diet Library, Tokyo, Japan, and the Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA.

The National Library of Canada hosts and acts as a focal point for the UDT Programme.

Management and Funding

The Core Programmes of IFLA are guided by the Programme Management Committee, in close cooperation with the Professional Board, and under the supervision of the Executive Board.

The development of the programmes is currently assisted by the active involvement of advisory committees of experts, from the Divisions, Sections and Round Tables of IFLA. These committees provide advice on the work plans and evaluate the results achieved. The Core Programmes are not financed from the IFLA general funds derived from membership fees but from voluntary contributions mainly from national libraries and from project funding received through funding agencies (including Unesco).

It is a major concern to IFLA's Executive Board that a limited number of national libraries sustains the Core Programmes whereas the work of the Core Programmes benefits all national libraries. The list of contributors (see pages 12-13) may serve to illustrate this point.

The management and promotion of the Core Programmes would never have been possible without a considerable seeding grant from the Council on Library Resources (Washington, DC, USA). This grant enabled IFLA to employ a consultant as Programme Development Officer.

Since the expiration of the grant in December 1988, IFLA has continued to fund a consultant, because the Core Programmes are now an integral part of IFLA's activities, and the demand for further action is very strong. It is up to IFLA's membership to provide the basic funding for the infrastructure needed to develop the programmes. Only then can requests for project funding submitted to funding agencies outside IFLA be justified.

Current Development

Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (UBCIM)

The work of the UBCIM Programme has concentrated on the development of the International Standard Bibliographic Descriptions (ISBDs), the UNIMARC formats and publications dealing with machine-readable cataloguing and the exchange of bibliographic records.

Following the publication of revised ISBDs for monographs, non-book materials and serials, *ISBD(PM) Printed Music* and *ISBD(A) Antiquarian* will appear early in 1991. *ISBD(CF) Computer Files* was published in 1990, along with the *ISBD Manual* commissioned by Unesco.

Forthcoming titles include *UNIMARC Format for Authorities*, the third edition of the *International Guide to MARC Databases and Services* and *Management and Use of Name Authority Files*, a project undertaken with the Section on Bibliography. The Programme also plans to publish the proceedings of the DDC Workshop held in 1989 in Paris and of the Seminar on Bibliographic Records convened with the Division of Bibliographic Control in Stockholm, in 1990, prior to the IFLA General Conference.

UNIMARC activities currently planned:

- involvement in a study sponsored by the Commission of European Communities, the aim of which will be to facilitate the international exchange of bibliographic records and to establish the feasibility of using UNIMARC amongst the national libraries of the European Community, based upon their present computer facilities;
- the results of the preliminary study will be presented to a panel of EC experts during a seminar in Florence, on 4 June 1991.
- an international UNIMARC/CCF Workshop (sponsored jointly by IFLA and Unesco), to be held in Florence on 5-7 June 1991, the aim of which is to investigate the possibilities for the exchange of bibliographic data by conversion from CCF records to UNIMARC or from UNIMARC records to CCF.
- the constitution of a permanent UNIMARC committee to oversee UNIMARC promotion and development.
- the development of UNIMARC Guidelines for Component Parts, by a group of experts which met in Stockholm in August, 1990.

The Programme's quarterly journal, *International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control* continues to cover UBCIM related topics from the viewpoints of librarians and in-

formation workers all over the world and to report on the work of the Programme itself.

Universal Availability of Publications (UAP)

During 1990-1992 the Programme has concentrated on three areas: research, publicity and wider integration into the library and information world as a whole.

The scope of the Programme has been extended to examine the barriers to making documents available in formats appropriate to the reader's needs.

In the field of research an extensive study of the role of national libraries in the new information environment was completed. This study examined the use of new technologies by national libraries as well as their collection policies with regard to non-print materials, and examined the importance of the publishing methods of non-print media in different countries.

The Programme continues its active interest in copyright law and its effects on availability. It is associated with a European Communities initiative to examine the problem of copyright in electronic documents entitled CITED (Copyright in Electronically Transmitted Text).

Close working relationships continue with the Office for International Lending, through shared staff resources. The Programme also works closely with the European Foundation for Library Cooperation (EFLC). Areas for future research include a study of the availability of audiovisual materials, evaluation of subject specialization schemes, publishing developments in Eastern Europe (for which outline funding has been received from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft), a joint IFLA/ICA study on the role of the national library and the national archive, and a seminar in Egypt on UAP in Arab countries. The Programme continues to be represented at meetings of IFLA and ELP (European Librarians and Publishers Group) and Graham Cornish now sits on the IFLA Copyright Committee.

Publications are always an important part of the Programme's work, and the UAP Newsletter continues to appear twice a year in English (and in Spanish, as Boletin UOP). The Programme Officer has published papers on various aspects of UAP throughout the year.

Attendance at conferences is an important part of raising awareness of UAP principles and Programme staff presented papers at the following meetings:

- European Congress of Braille Music Librarians, Amsterdam, January 1991.
- Expert Meeting on East-West Information Transfer, Gosen, February 1991;
- ICSTI Conference on Squaring the Information Circle, Nancy, May 1991;
- Seminar for European National Librarians, Vienna, April 1991;
- UAP Seminar at the Lenin State Library, Moscow, May 1991;
- Forum on Interlending, Norwich, July 1991.

The Programme Officer also went on a week's lecture tour of Sweden in October 1991, giving talks on various aspects of UAP.

It is hoped that the awareness of UAP and its importance to the library and information world will continue to increase over the coming years.

Preservation and Conservation (PAC)

All facets of the Programme are oriented toward establishing an international milieu in which preservation activities can flourish and an international network of individuals and centres through which preservation information can flow.

The PAC Programme was officially launched at the first International Conference on the Preservation of Library Materials, held in Vienna, Austria in 1986.

The International Focal Point for PAC (Bibliothèque nationale, Paris, France) is assisted by regional centres in Leipzig (Deutsche Bucherei, Germany), Caracas (Biblioteca Nacional, Venezuela), Tokyo (National Diet Library, Japan), Canberra (National Library of Australia), and Washington DC (Library of Congress, USA). The Regional Centres are essential to the success of the PAC Programme. They communicate and work with the International Focal Point by assisting with its projects, by publicizing its goals and activities to others within the Centre's region, and by representing the preservation needs of the region to the International Focal Point. In addition, the Centres play the very important role of serving as Focal Points for specific international regions. As such, they can assess and address the particular preservation needs of a given region.

The PAC Core Programme sponsored a symposium on Managing the Preservation of Serial Literature in 1989 and expects to publish the proceedings of that symposium in 1991. An audiovisual programme (in Spanish and English) on disaster preparedness, *Disaster Response and Recovery* was completed with Unesco's assistance in 1990. Together with the RAMP publications *Disaster Planning, Preparedness and Recovery for Libraries and Archives* (Buchanan; PGI-88/WS-/6), *Vacuum Freeze Drying, a Method Used to Salvage Water-damaged Archival and Library Materials* (M°Cleary; PGI-87/WS/7), and *Prevention and Treatment of Mould in Library Collections with an Emphasis on Tropical Climates* (Lee; PGI-88/WS/9) the slide/tape programme package *DisasterResponse and Recovery* completes an important set of training

tools. These publications are useful in themselves and can also serve as background and support materials for workshops and seminars that specifically deal with practical issues of disaster planning and response. All have been published by Unesco. However, the slide show can be obtained from IFLA Headquarters in The Hague, The Netherlands.

The challenge for IFLA and PAC in the 1990s is to keep up the momentum that has developed over the past five years thanks to generous financial support and cooperative effort.

Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications (UDT)

During the 1987 IFLA Pre-Conference Seminar: "Open Systems Interconnection: The Communications Technology of the 1990s", it was recognized that the most significant development affecting the transfer of electronic data is the internationally accepted standard for Open Systems Interconnection. OSI provides a framework for defining standards or protocols for communication between computer systems. With this recognition, the UDT Core Programme became a focal point in IFLA for OSI.

The work of the UDT Programme in 1988/89 centered around the UDT ILL Demonstration Project Feasibility Study which was initiated to determine whether a project using the ISO ILL protocol for the international exchange of interlibrary loan requests was feasible. The participants in the study were the National Library of Canada and the British Library Document Supply Centre. The study found that the ISO ILL protocol can indeed be applied to the services of both institutions and recommended that the pilot project proceed.

Project planning is currently underway with the additional participation of the US Library of Congress. The UDT Programme's role in the project has been redefined to include the dissemination of information about the project's progression and achievements.

In 1990, the UDT Programme focussed on three studies. One study involved developing a strategy to help libraries adopt OSI-based software. Before libraries can adopt software which supports OSI-based protocols (such as Interlibrary Loan and Information Retrieval), an underlying organizational structure to support their use must be developed at the national and international levels.

The second study examined the potential of emerging standards and new technologies that will affect document delivery procedures. Although document delivery is one of the last library functions to be automated, a number of standards and technologies have been developed in the informatics sector that show promise for the inexpensive and rapid transmission of full text library documents.

The third study investigated the potential use of existing academic research networks to support bibliographic applications. As many of these networks are supported by a pre-OSI suite of protocols known collectively as Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP), the study will also examine how OSI protocols can run on a TCP/IP-based network. The reports resulting from these projects will be available from the UDT office.

The UDT Programme has recently recognized that the telecommunications infrastructure necessary to support OSI-based computer applications in libraries may not be present in regions outside of North America and Europe. Hence, there is a need to examine other telecommunication technologies and determine how they can be used to support library services and complement OSI-based telecommunication technologies. The UDT Programme in 1991 plans to investigate the availability of packet radio networks and their potential for providing improved library services in areas where a telecommunications infrastructure is not available. The study will also examine current developments in packet radio technology and assess the impact of OSI upon this development.

Plans for 1991 also include an investigation of the potential impact and applicability of the emerging international standards for Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) for bibliographic requirements, particularly acquisitions.

The UDT Programme disseminates information about its work and about issues relating generally to data transfer within the library community in the *UDT Newsletter*, a quarterly published in both English and French. The *UDT Newsletter* contains original articles on OSI as it relates to libraries, news items on the UDT Programme and related IFLA events, and other material such as glossaries and bibliographies.

National Library Support

The following National Libraries and other bodies contributed financially to IFLA's Core Programmes between 1980-1990:
Australia, National Library
Austria, National Library
Belgium, Ministry of National Education
Brazil, National Library
Canada, National Library
Denmark, Royal Library
Finland, Helsinki University Library
France, National Library
Germany, Federal Republic, National Library
Guyana, National Library
Iceland, National Library
Israel, National Library
Italy, European University Institute
Jamaica, National Library
Japan, National Diet Library
Luxembourg, National Library
Netherlands, Royal Library
New Zealand, National Library
Nigeria, National Library
Norway, National Library

Panama, National Library
Sierra Leone, Library Board
Spain, Ministry of Culture
Sweden, Royal Library
Switzerland, National Library
UK, National Library of Wales
USA, Library of Congress

Further Contributors

- Unesco (through various contracts)
- Council on Library Resources, Washington (overall programme management)
- Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (for UAP and UBCIM)
- Nederlands Bibliotheek en Lektuur Centrum (NBLC)
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (for UBCIM)
- Martinus Nijhoff International, Netherlands
- National Library of Austria (for PAC Conference, Vienna, April 1986)
- The United States National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) (for PAC)

Contributions in kind from the following countries:
Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Hungary, Poland, USSR

The following libraries contribute in kind by hosting international or regional focal points for IFLA Core Programmes:
The British Library, London and Boston Spa, UK
Library of Congress, Washington, DC, USA
National Library of Canada, Ottawa, Canada
Bibliotheque Nationale, Sable/Sarthe, France
Die Deutsche Bibliothek, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Biblioteca Nacional, Caracas, Venezuela
National Library of Australia, Canberra, Australia
National Diet Library, Tokyo, Japan
University Library, Uppsala, Sweden

Correspondence Addresses

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Germany
Tel. *49(69)7410906
or *49(69)7566492/355
Fax. *49(69)7566476
Telex 416643 deu bi

UAP: *Universal Availability of Publications*
The British Library
Document Supply Centre
Boston Spa, Wetherby
West Yorkshire
LS23 7BQ, UK
Tel. *44(937)843434
Fax *44(937)546236
Telex 557381

UDT: *Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications*
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa
Ontario K1A ON4
Canada
Tel. *1(819)9946833
Fax *1(819)9946835
Telex 0534311

PAC: *Preservation and Conservation*
International Focal Point
Bibliothèque nationale
2 rue Vivienne
75084 Paris Cedex 02
France
Tel. *33(1)47038832
Fax *33(1)42968447

PAC Regional Centres

- Deutsche Bucherei, Deutscher Platz 1, 7010 Leipzig, Germany. Tel. *37(41)88120, Telex 51562.
- Library of Congress, National Preservation Office, Washington DC, 20540 USA. Tel. *1(202)7071840; Fax. *1(202)7073434.
- Instituto Autonomo Biblioteca Nacional y de Servicios de Bibliotecas, Aptdo 50995, Caracas 1010-A, Venezuela. Tel. *58(2)922420/ 911444, Telex 26427.
- National Library of Australia, Parkes Place, Canberra ACT 2600, Australia. Tel. *61(62)62111, Fax. 61(62)571703, Telex 62100.
- National Diet Library, 10-1 Nagatacho 1 Chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100, Japan. Tel. *(81)(3)5812331, Telex 225393.

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Internationaler Verband der bibliothekarischen Vereine und Institutionen
Federación Internacional de Asociaciones de Bibliotecarios y Bibliotecas

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